

REMARKS

The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The pending claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over combinations of U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2003/0133066 to *Ono et al.* (“*Ono*”), JP Published Patent Application No. 10-098190 to *Kubota* (“*Kubota*”), U.S. Patent No. 4,853,755 to *Okabe et al.* (“*Okabe*”), U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2004/0066481 to *Hong et al.* (“*Hong*”), U.S. Patent No. 6,091,467 to *Kubo* (“*Kubo*”). Applicants respectfully traverse, noting that none of these references, singly or in combination, discloses every element of any of the pending claims as amended. More specifically, none discloses a shielding electrode whose edges substantially overlap edges of the region between source and drain electrodes, in plan view.

The latest Office Action asserts that the common electrode line CLT of *Ono* corresponds to Applicants’ claimed shielding electrode (Office Action, p. 3). However, even if so, no edge of this common electrode line CLT appears to overlap edges of any region between any source and drain electrodes (e.g., FIG. 1). None of the remaining references cures this deficiency in *Ono*. For example, *Okabe* discloses a light shield 12 whose edges do not overlap any edges of TFT 7 (Col. 1:41-52; FIGS. 6, 8). Neither *Hong* nor *Kubo* appears to disclose any shielding electrode whose edges substantially overlap edges of a region between source and drain electrodes in plan view.

Accordingly, none of the above references, singly or in combination, discloses or suggests a shielding electrode whose edges substantially overlap edges of a region between source and drain electrodes in plan view. Claim 1 as amended is thus patentable over each of these references for at least the reason that it recites “wherein edges of the shielding electrode substantially overlap edges of the region between the source electrode and the drain electrode in plan view,” and claims 9, 19, and 27 as amended are patentable for at least the reason that they recite “wherein edges of the shielding electrode substantially overlap edges of a region between the source electrode and the drain electrode in plan view.” The remaining pending claims each depend from one of claims 1, 9, 19, and 27, and are thus each also patentable for at least this same reason.

CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks set forth above, it is submitted that the application is now believed to be in condition for allowance. Authorization is given to charge any fees due or credit any overpayments in regard to this communication to deposit account 50-5029. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, a telephone call to the undersigned at (408) 331-1671 is welcomed and encouraged.

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